

FINAL REPORT FOR THE PERIOD OF MAY 18, 1998 TO JULY 20, 1998

Subproject FCO Number: 84230

Title:	ASF Program Design
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Implementing Agency:

Associação Saúde da Família

Report prepared:

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ASF: Program Design

I. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Family Health International (FHI) through a letter of agreement contracted Associação Saúde da Família (ASF), a Brazilian NGO, to support the design of a strategy and draft a workplan for HIV/AIDS activities under the IMPACT in Brazil.

Under the leadership of FHI, ASF collaborated in the design of a workplan to respond to the USAID/Brazil Strategic Objective: Increased sustainable and effective programs to prevent sexual transmission of HIV among major target groups.

From May 18 until July 20, 1998, under the lead of FHI, and in liaison with Pathfinder, the Population Council, PSI/DKT do Brazil, Management Sciences for Health; ASF developed a series of activities to collaborate in the design of the IMPACT workplan, prepared and reviewed the presentation of the workplan to USAID/Brazil, Ministry of Health National AIDS Control Program; and provided support for the presentation of the workplan in São Paulo. Furthermore, ASF participated in the preliminary discussions of Behavioral Surveillance Surveys (BSS) with local stakeholders in São Paulo. In addition, ASF in conjunction with the USAID/Brazil Cooperating Agencies (CAs) participated in meetings discuss to USAID/Brazil indicators.

During this period a one-year period subagreement was developed, discussed and agreed upon between FHI and ASF. A major outcome of the project presentations to the MOH/NACP and to the State and Municipal Secretariats of Health in São Paulo was a relevant request for technology transfer in the areas of evaluation and management of HIV/AIDS prevention programs. It is anticipated that in order to respond to the local needs from the MOH/NACP and State and Municipal levels in São Paulo a redesign of the workplan will be necessary.

II. DESCRIPTION OF SUBPROJECT

A. Background:

In the Western Hemisphere, Brazil is second only to the United States in the number of AIDS cases reported. With over 116,000 cases, Brazil also accounts for over half of the cases in Latin America and the Caribbean. Over 65% percent of the AIDS cases are concentrated in the states of São Paulo and Rio de Janeiro, with about 8% occurring in the northeast, including Bahia and Ceará states. HIV infection is estimated to effect more than 570,000 people.

Transmission of HIV is predominantly sexual, accounting for almost 75% of infections. Although men who have sex with men (MWM) have experienced high rates of infections from the start of the epidemic, sexual transmission is increasingly heterosexual, with a 1996 male to female ratio of 3:1. The young and the poor have also been effected in ever-greater numbers.

Brazil's national HIV/AIDS prevention program for 1998 through 2002, implemented by the Ministry of Health, has three goals.

1. Reduce the incidence of HIV/AIDS among vulnerable populations and those at high risk of infection, with priority on women, low-income populations, adolescents, indigenous populations and drug users.
2. Improve the quality of services offered to persons living with HIV/AIDS.
3. Strengthen the public and private institutions dedicated to STD/HIV/AIDS prevention activities.

The USAID/Brazil strategy will support goals 1 and 3 through its cooperating agencies (CAs) and their partners. This strategy will complement and collaborate closely with national program activities. The CAs will implement activities to reach the following intermediate results:

- Intermediate Result #1: Most effective program interventions identified and disseminated.
- Intermediate Result # 2: Management capacity of selected HIV/STI/reproductive health institutions to provide STI and HIV services increased.
- Intermediate Result # 3: Sustainable condom social marketing.

Through this agreement Family Health International provided funding to ASF as a partner institution to collaborate on a series of activities related to program design and to develop initial planned activities.

B. Scope of Work

The major activities agreed between FHI and ASF were:

1. Design of a technical strategy in consultation with IMPACT HQ staff.

OUTCOME: Task completed. Documents produced reviewed and approved by USAID: Workplan (in English finalized and Portuguese being reviewed for presentation in the State of Bahia). Development of a subagreement between FHI and ASF was finalized July, 1998.

2. Consensus: building and strategy development for BSS activities with local stakeholders and potential partners.

OUTCOME: A BSS technical document information package was provided to MOH/NACP and to the State of São Paulo AIDS/STD Control Program. After the USAID/Brazil Workplan was formally presented to the head of the State Secretariat of Health initial conversations in reference to BSS were conducted with potential partners. A overall strategy to implement BSS in Brazil is presently being discussed with the FHI evaluation unit.

3. Support and follow up for IMPACT HQ activities in Brazil:

OUTCOMES: ASF provided support and collaborated with FHI staff to prepare the workplan for presentation to USAID/Brazil, MOH/NACP and UNAIDS thematic group in Brazil. In addition in close collaboration with FHI HQ staff ASF developed a draft of a letter of agreement and subagreement to support the implementation of activities for a year period under the IMPACT project in Brazil.

4. Meeting with USAID/Brazil to finalize indicators:

OUTCOME: Under the lead of FHI and in close collaboration with CAs, ASF participated in meetings with USAID/Brazil to discuss the USAID/Brazil indicators.

CONSTRAINT: The indicator: # of USAID – funded and non-USAID funded programs that adopt identified effective interventions in four target states.

The indicator mentioned above is very broad and needs to be further refined. It is anticipated that in conjunction with USAID/Brazil, these indicators and how they will be measured will be clarified and discussed further. If, once further defined, collecting data on this indicator requires significant increases in level of effort, the future subagreement between FHI and ASF will be modified to reflect the increase. FHI will meet with AID/W to better define and refine this indicator in order to appropriately respond USAID/Brazil needs.

5. Participation in meetings with the MOH Brasilia, with IMPACT HQ staff, to present draft workplan and to complete a technical review of draft workplan.

OUTCOME: Under the leadership of FHI and in liaison with other CAs, ASF participated in meetings held in Brasilia with USAID/Brazil, MOH/NACP and the UNAIDS thematic group to present the USAID/Workplan for Brazil. In addition, ASF participated at Municipal and State meetings to present the USAID/Brazil Workplan to the State and Municipal Secretariats requesting T.A in evaluation and management.

6. Writing of workplan and budget for ASF's HIV/AIDS activities under IMPACT/Brazil in consultation with IMPACT HQ staff.

OUTCOME: Finalized a one-year subagreement in close collaboration with FHI HQ staff.

CONSTRAINT: In order to respond to local demands in the area of evaluation and management USAID will need to be flexible to modify the S.O.W. and FHI consequently will need to modify the S.O.W. agreed with ASF through a technical amendment to the agreed subagreement.

7. Coordination and planning meetings with MSH.

OUTCOME: Presently ASF and MSH are participating in meetings scheduled by USAID/Brazil to present the USAID/Brazil Workplan to federal, state and municipal governments.

8. Unplanned activities:

Three senior ASF staff members participated at the 12th International Conference on AIDS. Five posters were presented and two oral presentations were conducted for a total of seven presentations (6 related to the AIDSCAP and 1 non-AIDSCAP). Participation was funded by pharmaceutical companies and condom manufactures.

In addition ASF staff were assigned to identify potential best practices.

III. SUBPROJECT IMPLEMENTATION

A. Results

This subproject was implemented according to planned activities. A delay is being verified in the start up of BSS activities due to factors that are beyond ASF control. All other activities were implemented according to contract.

B. Constraints

The period of subproject implementation included an overlap with the XII International Conference on AIDS. Potential partners were involved on the preparation, participation and presentation of papers and posters. Furthermore June and July were atypical due to World Cup Soccer and the winter vacation period in Brazil during July 1998.

C. Management

This subproject was extended through an Amendment until July 20, 1998. A one-year subagreement was developed and signed between FHI and ASF.

IV. MATERIALS/PRODUCTS

1. Technical strategy finalized.
2. Workplan developed, presented and translated to Portuguese.
3. Letter of agreement, subagreement developed, reviewed and agreed between FHI and ASF.
4. BSS technical information packages delivered to potential stakeholders and partners.
5. Abstracts and papers presented at 12th International Conference on AIDS. Participation of ASF staff was funded by the private sector in Brazil: pharmaceutical companies and condom manufactures.

V. SITE VISITS:

The AIDSCAP project and the overall activities of ASF were presented to the new USAID Deputy Director, Mr. Lawrence Odle, during his visit to São Paulo in July, 1998.